Serving Yokosuka for 50 years

# Seahawk 海鷹 Umitaka

U.S. Fleet Activities, Yokosuka, Japan

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# It's official; CFAY named Navy's top installation worldwide

**By Ben Avey, CFAY Public Affairs**

Secretary of Defense Robert Gates and Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Adm. Gary Roughead announced that Commander Fleet Activities Yokosuka (CFAY) has been named the Navy's winner of the 2009 Commander in Chief's Annual Award for Installation Excellence April 24.

The Commander in Chief's Annual Award for Installation Excellence recognizes the outstanding and innovative efforts of the people who operate and maintain U.S. military installations throughout each of the military services. The five recipients of this highly competitive Presidential award were selected for their exemplary support of Department of Defense missions.

"As a commanding officer, I couldn't be prouder of the folks who made this happen," said CFAY Commanding Officer Capt. Daniel Weed. "This award is a tribute to the hard work and dedication of the Sailors, civilians, contractors, MLC [Japanese Master Labor Contract] employees and family members who make up our community. It was their work, their sacrifice, day in and day out, that has made Fleet Activities Yokosuka the model of excellence and our transformation into a 21st Century naval base that we are being recognized for today."

CFAY is no stranger to this award, CFAY has won the award four times in the past 11 years. In addition, last year, CFAY was honored to receive a number of other awards including the CNO Shore Safety Award; CNO Pollution Prevention Industrial Installation Award; United States Forces Japan Installation Environmental Excellence Awards, Spill Response and Remediation; Navy Exchange Bingham Award and the NEY (Galley) Award.

**As the Navy winner of the 2009 Commander in Chief Annual Award for Installation Excellence, CFAY will receive a cash award of $500,000, a trophy for permanent retention and an Excellent Installation Flag authorized to be flown by the installation for a period of one year.**

CFAY Command Master Chief Wayne Smith was pleased that the hard work of Sailors aboard CFAY was being recognized by the Secretary of the Navy and the CNO.

"It's an honor to know that people at the highest level recognize the hard work of our Sailors," said Smith. "They don't expect an award for what they do, but I think they sure appreciate the recognition when they get it."

CFAY was selected for the award from among 12 installations that were nominated by each of the navy regions worldwide. Naval Amphibious Base Little Creek and Naval Air Station Whidbey Island were awarded 2nd and 3rd place respectively.

The award will be presented to the command in a formal joint service ceremony at the Pentagon.

CFAY is a 560-acre naval base located on Tokyo Bay in the Kanto Plain region of Japan, hosting more than 80 tenant commands including 11 forward-deployed Navy ships of the U.S. 7th Fleet, Commander U.S. Naval Forces Japan, Carrier Task Force 70, Destroyer Squadron 15, Submarine Group Seven and more than 27,500 military, civilian, MLC and Independent Hiring Agreement (IHA) professionals.

# Career day offers glimpse into future for Kinnick High students

**Story and photo by Ben Avey, CFAY Public Affairs**

Students from Nile C. Kinnick High School skipped their regularly scheduled classes to learn about their future during a career day held at the school aboard Commander Fleet Activities Yokosuka (CFAY) April 24.

Kinnick Career Day brought together more than 100 professionals from a wide variety of fields to educate students about the details of their professions. The annual event was organized in order to help connect student's academic instruction to real world careers that students may one day pursue.

Students such as Kinnick freshman Nichalous Gibbons, who is interested in attending a military academy and becoming a military officer, took the opportunity to learn about a few of his options after high school.

"So far, it's been pretty chill. I've learned about careers in law, engineering and just recently, firefighting…It's really broadened my horizons."

The day-long event began with a school wide assembly in which students were treated to a demonstration by the Navy JROTC Armed Exhibition Drill Team and a display of mixed martial arts from students enrolled in the recently created Strike Sports class. In addition, students engaged in a question and answer period after listening to a speech by CFAY Commanding Officer Capt. Daniel Weed about teamwork and how it applies to life goals.

After the assembly, students divided into approximately 30 different groups to hear from individual career day guest speakers. Students were able to choose the sessions in which they would participate in order to maximize interest and effectiveness.

Some of the more popular career seminars included doctors, surgeons, chefs, cryptologists, environmental engineers, veterinarians, dietitian/nutritionists, Naval Criminal Investigative Service personnel, fighter pilots and the Japanese singing sensation, Olivia.

While the program was created to help students find their way in the world, it also gave guest speakers the chance to give back to the community by teaching students about the careers that have helped to define their lives.

**(Right) ND1 Nathan Kralemann (DSW/SW) of SRF-JRMC explains the principles of diving and water pressure to Nile C. Kinnick High School students during the annual Kinnick Career Day aboard CFAY April 24.**

"I just want to give them the opportunity to be as successful as I've been," said guest speaker Senior Chief Damage Controlman (SW/AW) Andre Gross who taught students about careers related to firefighting. "It might not impact them right now, but I think down the road, as they mature and find themselves, it might be something they can think back on, reflect back on and say 'Hey, that's what I want to do!'"

## Main Gate closure

**CFAY Carney Gate (main gate) will be closed *May 12* from 8 a.m. to noon to ALL vehicle traffic due to a base exercise. All vehicle traffic will be rerouted to Womble Gate (back gate). Main gate pedestrian traffic will be limited to using only the overpass (boardwalk) entrance/exit.**